NA KUMAR): (a) Locations having wind velocity of more than 18 kmph are generally suitable for generation of power from wind. Availability of land and suitable grid are the other main requirements for generation of wind power.

(b) A wind power capacity exceeding 3200 MW has been established worldwide. United States is leading with 1700 MW wind power capacity, followed by Denmark (520 MW), Germany (320 MW), U. K. (145 MW), Netherlands (132 MW) and India (117 MW).

(c) to (e) Under the National wind Resources Assessment Programme, 69 sites having wind speeds of more than 18 kmph have been idetified in eight States UTs viz., Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Lakshadeep Islands, which could be considered for setting up wind power projects. A wind power capacity of 117 MW has already been established in the country so far while another 50 MW is under implementation. Wind farm projects aggregating to about 900 MW capacity are at various stages of discussions in the potential States.

Pollution Clearance from Power Projects based on NCES

1502. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States have been insisting on pollution clearance from power projects based on non-conventional energy sources like solar and wind and in the same manner such formalities are imposed on thermal and large hydel power plants;

(b) whether the Ministry has been offering several incentives for power projects based on non-conventional sources;

(c) if so, whether the Ministry has revised the target of power production from Non-Conventional sources;

(d) whether the Ministry has found that the States have been applying the same yardsticks and procedures to these projects that are applied to the projects based on conventional energy sources; and

(e) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a It is not mandatory under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules thereunder, for power projects based on non-conventional energy sources like solar and wind to obtain environmental clearance.

(b) Primarily, incentives offered by the Central Govt., include subsidies for selected demonstration projects, accelerated depreciation, tax holiday and concessions/ exemption on customs and excise duties.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has formulated a new Strategy and Action Plan and the targets to generate power through non-conventional energy sources by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan have been revised from 600 MW to 2000 MW.

(d) and (e) In order to accelerate power generation based on non-conventional energy sources, the States have been requested to evolve suitable institutional malhnisms and conducive procedures for these projects. In addition, guidelines have also been suggested for announcement of private sector policies which would encourage non-conventional energy based power generation. A few States have already responded favourably to the suggestions of the Ministry.

Implementation of IREP in Orissa

1503. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) is being implemented;